

You are to create a poster to promote the New Zealand dotterel. Your audience will be the general New Zealand public. Your poster must include the following:

- A picture of the dotterel
  - A description of the dotterels habitat
  - The name and/or pictures of at least two predators
  - A list of three things that people can do to help protect the dotterel
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In your group you are to perform a role play. The main message of your role play must be based around the protection of the dotterel. Every person needs to have a role. Roles could include:

- A ranger
- A minder
- A dotterel
- A predator
- An egg or a nest
- A member of the public

The role play will be performed at the end of this session. If you have any questions please ask.....

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In your groups you are to come up with three key questions about the dotterel. Make the questions as difficult as you can (but make sure you know the answer!) and then write them down on *sheet one*.

On *sheet two* you are to write down as many facts about the dotterel as you can remember. Once finished decide on a bird buzzer sound for your group.

Each group in turn will ask their three questions. Groups must buzz in to answer. The group who answers the most questions correctly wins.

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# The New Zealand Dotterel

1) What does the New Zealand dotterel look like?

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2) How does the dotterel change in appearance during breeding season?

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3) When is the dotterel breeding season?

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4) Name five predators of the dotterel:

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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4. 

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5. 

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5) What are some of the methods used to control the following pests?

Dogs: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Hedgehogs: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Birds of prey (i.e. the black-backed gull): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6) Where do dotterels like to nest?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7) Why is it strange that the dotterels have nested on the NWG waste embankment?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8) How are people a threat to the dotterel?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9) Name three things you can do to help save the dotterel:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10) Name two things that NWG and DOC are doing to manage the dotterel:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

11) How else do you think that NWG and DOC can help manage the dotterel?

\_\_\_\_\_

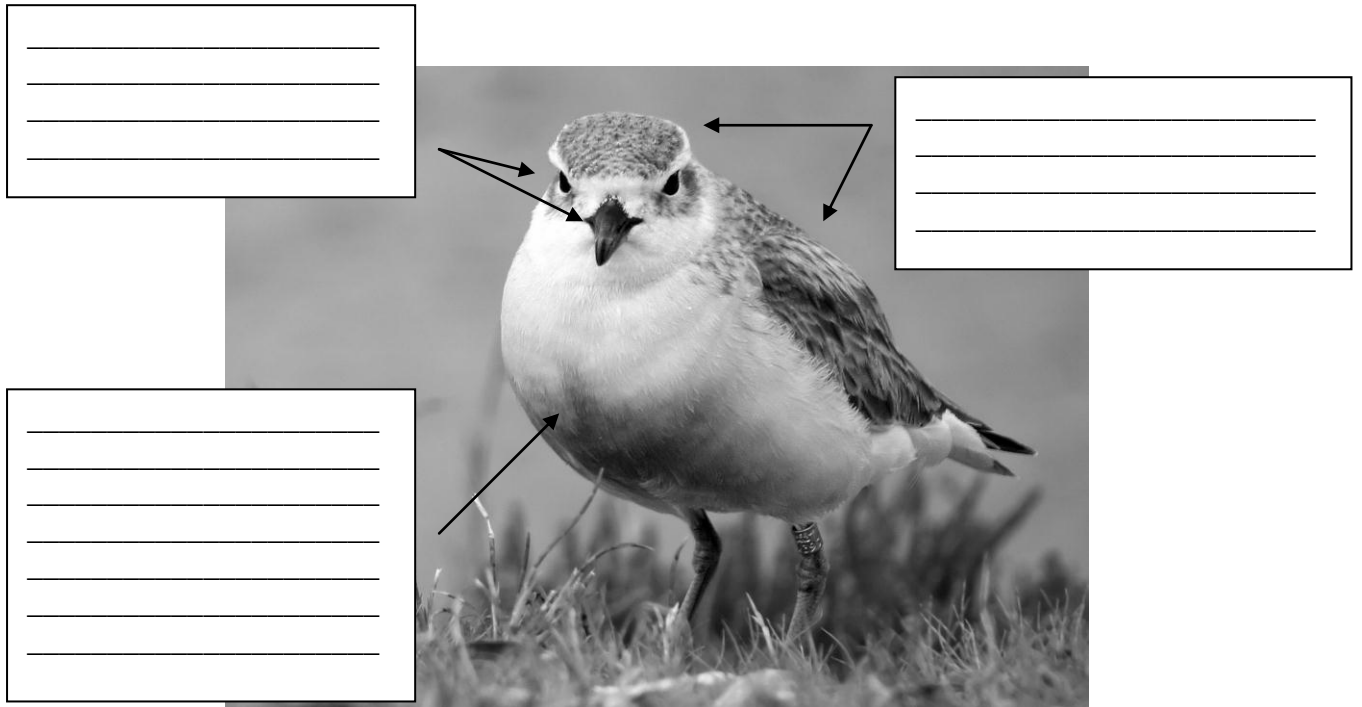
\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

# The New Zealand Dotterel

1) Fill in the labels with appropriate descriptions:



2) Why is the dotterel difficult to see when it is standing still?

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3) Where does the dotterel like to nest?

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4) Name three predators of the dotterel other than a dog or cat:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

5) If you took your cat to the beach what could you do to help protect the dotterel?

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6) If you took your dog to the beach what could you do to help protect the dotterel?

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7) What is the job of a ranger?

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8) How can you help to protect the dotterel?

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# Help the Dotterel Design a Better Nest

Different bird species use different building materials to create nests. Nests can vary in shape, colour and location. The following nests are just a few examples:

## The Wood Pecker:



The Woodpecker's nest is a hole in a tree that has been lined with wood chips.

## The Hummingbird:



The Hummingbirds nest is made from plant fibres, moss, and spider silk and the inside is lined with feathers. The nests are around half the size of a walnut. They can be found in places such as on a thin branch or on the ledge of a cliff.

## The Black-necked Weaver:



The Black-necked Weaver builds a woven nest made from grass and creepers. It has a 15cm long downwards facing entrance. The eggs are layed in the globular chamber that is suspended from a branch in a tree.

### The Grey Warbler:



The Grey Warbler builds a domed-shaped hanging nest that has a small side entrance hole. The nest is made from things such as moss, twigs, spider webs, wool, hair, spider egg-cases, leaves, bark and feathers

### The Chatham Island Tāiko:



The Chatham Island Tāiko is a seabird that nests in burrows. A burrow can be between two and five metres in length

Your task is to design the dotterel a better nest. Currently the dotterels nest is camouflaged and located near the high tide line. They are easily trampled on and storms often wash them away. Use the following page to draw your nest. Afterwards write down all the details explaining your nest on another piece of paper.

### Things to think about:

- **Colour** – will it be highly visible or camouflaged?
- **Materials** – what will your nest be made of? Is it durable?
- **Location** – your nest must be near the beach but it does not have to be on the high tide mark
- **Entrance** – how will the Dotterel enter the nest? Can other predators fit inside the entrance?
- **Size** – Will the nest be large or small?
- **Shape** – Will your nest be round, oval, rectangular...?